

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Application due: July 24, 2026









Fiscal Year 2026 Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program (IPR)

Assistance Listing Number: 97.157

Funding Opportunity Number: DHS-26-GPD-157-00-98

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Before you begin

If you believe you are a good candidate for this funding opportunity, secure your System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)) and [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) registrations now. If you are already registered, make sure your registration is active and up-to-date.

SAM.gov registration (this can take several weeks)

You must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

[See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply](#)

Grants.gov registration (this can take several days)

You must have an active Grants.gov registration. Doing so requires a [Login.gov](https://login.gov) registration as well.

[See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply](#)

Fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and other criminal or noncriminal misconduct related to this program may be reported to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Hotline. The toll-free numbers to call are (800) 323-8603 and TTY (844) 889-4357.



To help you find what you need, this NOFO uses internal links. In Adobe Reader, you can go back to where you were before clicking an internal link by pressing Alt + Left Arrow (Windows) or Command + Left Arrow (Mac) on your keyboard.



Step 1: Review the Opportunity

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Basic Information

A. Award Facts

Agency Name: Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Resilience, Grant Programs Directorate, Preparedness Grants Division, Transportation Infrastructure Security Branch

Assistance Listing Number: 97.157

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Title: Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Intercity Passenger Rail (IPR) Grant Program

Funding Opportunity Number: DHS-26-GPD-157-00-98

Announcement Type: Initial

Expected Award Range: \$9.5 million

Expected Total Funding: \$9.5 million

Anticipated Number of Awards: 1

B. Executive Summary

The FY 2026 IPR provides funds to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism.

Eligibility

A. Eligible Entities

Only the following entities or entity types are eligible to apply.

Applicant Eligibility

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is the only eligible entity per the *Homeland Security and Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act*, Pub. L. No. 119-86 (2026).

Subapplicant Eligibility

Subapplicants and subawards are not allowed.

B. Project Type Eligibility



Have questions? See [Contacts and Support](#)

Key Dates

Projected Application Start Date: June 24, 2026

Projected Application End Date: July 24, 2026

Anticipated Funding Selection Date: September 30, 2026

Anticipated Award Date: No later than September 30, 2026

Projected Period of Performance Start Date: September 01, 2026

Projected Period of Performance End Date: August 31, 2029

Budget Period: September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2029

Allowable Project Types

Costs generally need to fit within one of the categories listed below to be allowable under this program.

Specific investments made in support of the NOFO funding priorities generally fall into one of the following allowable cost categories:

- Planning;
- Operational Activities;
- Equipment and Capital Projects;
- Training and Awareness Campaigns; and
- Exercises.

Please see [Appendix I: Allowable Costs](#) for more information on allowable costs.

Applicants who have questions about whether a cost is allowable under this program should contact their Preparedness Officer.

Unallowable Project Types

Specific unallowable costs for the IPR include:

- Personnel costs (except as detailed above);
- Activities unrelated to the completion and implementation of the IPR; and,
- Other items not in accordance with the Authorized Equipment List (AEL) or not previously listed as allowable costs.

C. Requirements for Personnel, Partners, and Other Parties

An application submitted by an otherwise eligible non-federal entity (i.e., the applicant) may be deemed ineligible when the person that submitted the application is not: 1) a current employee, personnel, official, staff or leadership of the non-federal entity; and 2) duly authorized to apply for an award on behalf of the non-federal entity at the time of application.

Further, the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and Signatory Authority (SA) must be a duly authorized current employee, personnel, official, staff or leadership of the recipient and provide an email address unique to the recipient at the time of application and upon any change in assignment during the period of performance. Consultants or contractors of the recipient are not permitted to be the AOR or the SA of the recipient. It is the sole responsibility of the recipient to keep their points of contact for the organization up-to-date and accurate in all federal systems.

The AOR is responsible for submitting programmatic and financial performance reports, accepting award packages, signing assurances and certifications, and submitting award amendments.

D. Maximum Number of Applications

The maximum number of applications that can be submitted is one per applicant.

E. Additional Restrictions

Recipients/subrecipients, and if applicable, applicants/subapplicants, are required to certify their compliance with federal statutes, DHS directives, policies, and procedures.

F. References to Other Eligibility Factors

Please see the following references provided below:

1. “Threshold Review Criteria” subsection
2. “Financial Integrity Criteria” subsection
3. “Supplemental Financial Integrity Criteria and Review” subsection
4. FEMA may request financial information such as the Employer Identification Number (EIN) and bank information as part of the potential award selection. This will apply to everyone who benefits from the award, including subrecipients.

G. Cost Share Requirements

There is no cost share requirement.

H. Cost Share Description, Type, and Restrictions

Not applicable.

I. Cost Share Example

Not applicable.

J. Required Information for Verifying Cost Share

Not applicable.

Maintenance of Effort

Not applicable.

Program Description

A. Program Purpose

The IPR program is one of four grant programs that constitute DHS/FEMA's focus on transportation infrastructure security activities. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS to help strengthen the Nation's critical infrastructure against potential terrorist attacks. The IPR provides funds to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism.

Examples of recent IPR accomplishments include successfully executed full-scale and tabletop exercises building upon the outcomes of previously funded exercises with a focus on response plans, policies, and procedures. Additional examples of IPR accomplishments include efforts to increase security awareness through public campaigns (e.g., Text-a-Tip, passenger security awareness videos displayed through kiosks,

etc.), as well as providing training for law enforcement personnel focusing on railroad infrastructure and counterterrorism.

DHS is focused on the criticality of information sharing and collaboration in building a national mindset of preparedness and protecting against terrorism and other threats to our national security. DHS and its homeland security mission were born from the failures among federal agencies and between the federal agencies and state and local authorities to share critical information related to the threat of terrorism before the September 11, 2001 attacks. However, the threat profile has changed in the past two decades. We now face continuous cyberattacks by sophisticated actors, as well as ongoing threats to soft targets and crowded places, such as intercity passenger rail infrastructure. The IPR reflects DHS's commitment to risk-informed investment, collaboration, and resilience. To ensure that priorities reflect the current threat environment, FEMA's Preparedness Grant Programs are guided by annually designated National Priority Areas (NPAs). The FY 2026 NPAs are:

1. Enhancing the protection of soft targets and crowded places,
 - a. This includes faith-based organizations and election sites;
2. Supporting Homeland Security Task Forces and fusion centers;
3. Enhancing and integrating cybersecurity resiliency;
4. Enhancing election security; and
5. Supporting Border Crisis Response and Enforcement.
 - a. Example activities under border crisis response and enforcement support may include:
 - i. Participation in the Department of Homeland Security/U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement 287(g) training program;
 - ii. Cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainers; and
 - iii. Other jurisdictional responsibilities to support the enforcement of United States immigration law.

For FY 2026, the Administration encourages applicants to propose innovative solutions that support the broader homeland security mission reflected in the NPAs, as applicable. Applicants must clearly demonstrate how their proposed projects address an NPA and how they align with the stated purpose and objectives of this NOFO.

Applicants may also request funding for legacy projects which are based in continuing need. Enduring needs projects include:

1. Effective planning;
2. Training and awareness campaigns;
3. Equipment and capital projects; and
4. Exercises.

For FY 2025, one application was received and approved for funding. Amtrak is the only permitted recipient for this grant.

B. Goals and Objectives

Goals: Strengthen the nation's critical transportation infrastructure against risks associated with potential

terrorist attacks.

Objectives: IPR achieves this goal through the following objectives:

1. Building and sustaining Amtrak's core capabilities (Core capabilities are the means required to deal with the security risks Amtrak is most likely to face, an assessment of which will describe the security and resilience posture for Amtrak. Core capabilities are outlined in the National Preparedness Goal);
2. Building and sustaining Amtrak's capabilities in the national priority areas;
3. Addressing and closing gaps identified in Amtrak's Vulnerability Assessment and Security Plan (e.g., based on the Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement).

The following provides a breakdown of the NPAs along with their tie-in to core capabilities and examples of eligible transit security project types for each area. More information on allowable investments can be found in the Funding Restrictions and Allowable Costs section below.

FY 2026 IPR Funding Priorities

All priorities in this section concern the Safety and Security and Transportation Lifelines.

National Priority

1. Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets and Crowded Places

Core Capabilities

- Operational coordination
- Public information and warning
- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Interdiction and disruption
- Screening, search, and detection
- Access control and identity verification
- Physical protective measures
- Risk management for protection programs and activities

Example Project Types

- Physical security enhancements at rail and bus stations located in Urban Area Security Initiative urban areas
 - Security cameras (closed circuit television)
 - Security screening equipment and technology for people and baggage
 - Access controls: Fencing, gates, barriers, etc.
- Use of visible, unpredictable deterrence, to include Operational Packages
 - Explosive detection canine teams
 - Mobile Screening Teams
 - Anti-terrorism Teams
- Directed/Surge Patrols on Overtime

National Priority

2. Supporting Homeland Security Task Forces and Fusion Centers

Core Capabilities

- Intelligence and information sharing
- Interdiction and disruption
- Public information and warning
- Operational coordination
- Risk management for protection programs and activities

Example Project Types

- Establishing or enhancing multi-agency Homeland Security Task Forces (HSTFs), including operational coordination centers
- Enhancing capabilities and integration with local fusion centers
- Procuring technology or equipment to support surveillance, communications, and data analysis
- Developing standard operating procedures for information sharing, joint operations, and immigration enforcement coordination
- Personnel training, credentialing, and certification to improve interoperability and mission alignment
- Intelligence analysis, reporting, and suspicious activity monitoring
- Exercises and simulations focused on joint operations, intelligence sharing, or interdiction/disruption of criminal or smuggling networks
- Community engagement efforts to foster trust and encourage threat reporting
- Information sharing with all DHS components; fusion centers; other operational, investigative, and analytic entities; and other federal law enforcement and intelligence entities
- Cooperating with DHS and other entities in intelligence, threat recognition, assessment, analysis, and mitigation
- Identifying, assessing, and reporting of threats of violence
- Intelligence analysis training, planning, and exercises
- Coordinating the intake, triage, analysis, and reporting of tips/ leads and suspicious activity, to include coordination with the [Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting \(SAR\) Initiative \(NSI\)](#)

National Priority

3. Enhancing Cybersecurity

Core Capabilities

- Cybersecurity
- Intelligence and information sharing
- Planning
- Public information and warning
- Operational coordination
- Screening, search, and detection
- Access control and identity verification
- Supply chain integrity and security

- Risk management for protection programs and activities
- Long-term vulnerability reduction
- Situational assessment
- Infrastructure systems
- Operational communications

Example Project Types

- Cybersecurity risk assessments
- Projects that address vulnerabilities identified in cybersecurity risk assessments
 - Improving cybersecurity to meet minimum levels identified by Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the [National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework \(Version 1.1\)](#) or equivalent
 - Adoption of cybersecurity performance goals ([CISA's Cross-Sector Cybersecurity Performance Goals](#))
- Cybersecurity training and planning

National Priority

4. Enhancing Election Security

Core Capabilities

- Cybersecurity
- Intelligence and information sharing
- Planning
- Long-term vulnerability reduction
- Situational assessment
- Infrastructure systems
- Operational coordination
- Community resilience

Example Project Types

- Prioritize compliance with the VVSG 2.0 established by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission
- Complete testing through a VSTL accredited by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission
- Physical security planning and exercise support
- Physical/site security measures – e.g., locks, shatter proof glass, alarms, access controls, etc.
- General election security navigator support
- Cyber and general election security navigator support
- Cybersecurity risk assessments, training, and planning
- Projects that address vulnerabilities identified in cybersecurity risk assessments
- Iterative backups, encrypted backups, network segmentation, software to monitor/scan, and endpoint protection
- Distributed Denial of Service protection
- Migrating online services to the “.gov” internet domain
- Public awareness/preparedness campaigns discussing election security and integrity measures
- Long-term vulnerability reduction and community resilience

National Priority

5. Supporting Border Crisis Response and Enforcement

Core Capabilities

- Training and awareness
- Community resilience
- Operational coordination
- Risk management for protection programs and activities

Example Project Types

- Staffing support to expand 287(g) screening operations within correctional facilities
- Operational overtime costs directly tied to 287(g) screening, processing, and enforcement activities
- Training programs for state and local law enforcement officers in immigration law, civil rights and civil liberties protections, and 287(g) procedures
- Developing or enhancing information-sharing platforms between ICE and local agencies
- Procuring screening, detection, and communications technology to support immigration enforcement activities
- Establishing secure and dedicated communication networks with ICE Field Offices
- Conducting joint training exercises with ICE and local law enforcement to test operational coordination
- Supporting facilities upgrades, such as creating dedicated interview rooms and secure processing spaces
- Community engagement and public briefings to promote transparency and understanding of 287(g) operations and protections

National Priority

6. Enduring Needs

Priority Area

Planning

Core Capabilities

- Planning
- Risk management for protection programs and activities
- Risk and disaster resilience assessment
- Threats and hazards identification
- Operational coordination
- Community resilience

Example Project Types

Development of:

- System-wide Security Risk Management Plans
- Continuity of Operations Plans
- Response Plans

- System-wide and/or asset-specific vulnerability assessments
- Efforts to strengthen governance integration between/among regional partners

Priority Area

Training and Awareness

Core Capabilities

- Long-term vulnerability reduction
- Public information and warning
- Operational coordination
- Situational assessment
- Community resilience

Example Project Types

- Active shooter training, including integrating the needs of persons with disabilities
- Security training for employees, to include Basic security awareness
- Public awareness/preparedness campaigns

Priority Area

Equipment and Capital Projects

Core Capabilities

- Long-term vulnerability reduction
- Infrastructure systems
- Operational communications
- Interdiction and disruption
- Screening, search, and detection
- Access control and identity verification
- Physical protective measures
- Supply chain integrity and security
- Threats and hazards identification
- Infrastructure systems
- Intelligence and information sharing

Example Project Types

- Top Transit Asset List risk remediation
- Protecting other high-risk, high-consequence areas or systems that have been identified through system-wide risk assessments
- Sharing and leveraging intelligence and information
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive prevention, detection response and recovery equipment
- Unmanned Aircraft Systems and detection technologies

Priority Area

Exercises

Core Capabilities

- Long-term vulnerability reduction

Example Project Types

- Response exercises
- Operational coordination
- Operational communications
- Community resilience

C. Performance Measures and Targets

1. Performance Measure Name 1: Cybersecurity vulnerabilities reduced (*Target: 20 Cybersecurity vulnerability reduced*);
2. Performance Measure Name 2: Number of Dedicated Surge Force Hours (*Target: 4000 hours of Dedicated Surge Force Hours*);
3. Performance Measure Name 3: Number of Security Exercises conducted (*Target: 5 Security Exercises conducted*);
4. Performance Measure Name 4: Number of Security Trainings conducted (*Target: 5 Security Trainings conducted*);
5. Performance Measure Name 5: Number of Physical Security Hardening improvements completed (*Target: 5 Physical Security Hardening improvements completed*).

D. Federal Assistance Type

Cooperative Agreement

E. Program-Specific Unallowable Costs

Specific unallowable costs for IPR include:

- Intelligence and information sharing above or otherwise allowed by statute;
- Activities unrelated to the completion and implementation of the IPR program;
- Other items not in accordance with the AEL or not previously listed as allowable costs;
- Costs related to any matching or cost share requirement for any other federal award;
- Costs related to lobbying or intervention in federal regulatory proceedings;
- Costs related to suing the Federal Government or any other government entity;
- Pre-award costs, unless approved in writing by FEMA and included in the grant award; and
- Costs that are not consistent with the Cost Principles located in FAR 31.2, as applicable.

Note: The above may not be exhaustive. Please consult the applicable terms and conditions and with FEMA for more information.

F. General Funding Requirements

Costs charged to federal awards (including federal and non-federal cost share funds) must comply with applicable statutes, rules and regulations, policies, this NOFO, and the terms and conditions of the federal

award. This includes, among other requirements, that costs must be incurred, and products and services must be delivered within the budget period (see [2 C.F.R. § 200.403\(h\)](#)).

Recipients may not use federal funds or any cost share funds for the following activities:

1. Matching or cost sharing requirements for other federal grants and cooperative agreements (see [2 C.F.R. § 200.306](#)).
2. Lobbying or other prohibited activities under [18 U.S.C. § 1913](#) or [2 C.F.R. § 200.450](#).
3. Prosecuting claims against the federal government or any other government entity (see [2 C.F.R. § 200.435](#)).

G. Prohibition on Covered Equipment or Services

FEMA provides additional resources regarding the prohibition on covered telecommunications equipment and services in its policy titled [Prohibitions on Expending FEMA Award Funds for Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services](#) (FEMA Policy #405-143-1). This policy outlines specific requirements related to the prohibition. Additionally, FEMA's [Contract Provisions Guide](#) offers sample language for the required contract provisions.

Recipients, subrecipients, and their contractors or subcontractors must comply with the prohibitions set forth in [Section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019](#), which restrict the purchase of covered telecommunications and surveillance equipment and services. See [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.216, 200.327, 200.471](#), and [Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200](#) for more information.

Prohibition on Covered Foreign Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

Recipients, subrecipients, and their contractors or subcontractors must also comply with Section 1825 of the American Security Drone Act of 2023, enacted as part of the [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024](#) (Pub. L. No. 118-31 §§ 1821-33, 41 U.S.C. 3901 note prec.). This provision mandates that, beginning December 22, 2025, no federal funds awarded through a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement, or otherwise made available may be used to procure a covered unmanned aircraft system (UAS) that is manufactured or assembled by a covered foreign entity. Significantly, no funds may be used in connection with the operation of such a drone or UAS. For more information, refer to [Public Law 118-31](#) and [OMB Memorandum M-26-02, Ensuring Government Use of Secure Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Supporting United States Producers](#).

H. Beneficiary and Participant Eligibility

Beneficiary Participant

There are no program requirements. This NOFO and any subsequent federal awards create no rights or causes of action for any beneficiary.

There are no program requirements. This NOFO and any subsequent federal awards create no rights or causes of action for any participant.

This NOFO and any subsequent federal awards create no rights or causes of action for any beneficiary or participant. Please consult the DHS Standard Terms and Conditions, your awarding agency's terms and

conditions, and your awarding documents for more details.

I. Indirect Costs

Indirect costs (IDC) are allowed for recipients.

Indirect costs (IDC) are costs incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective and not readily assignable to specific cost objectives without disproportionate effort. Applicants with a current negotiated IDC rate agreement who desire to charge indirect costs to a federal award must provide a copy of their IDC rate agreement with their applications. Not all applicants are required to have a current negotiated IDC rate agreement. Applicants that are not required to have a negotiated IDC rate agreement, but are required to develop an IDC rate proposal, must provide a copy of their proposal with their applications. Applicants without a current negotiated IDC rate agreement (including a provisional rate) and wish to charge the de minimis rate must reach out to FEMA for further instructions. Applicants who wish to use a cost allocation plan in lieu of an IDC rate proposal must reach out to FEMA for further instructions. As it relates to the IDC for subrecipients, a recipient must follow the requirements of [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.332](#) and [200.414](#) in approving the IDC rate for subawards.

J. Budget Period

There will be only a single budget period with the same start and end dates as the period of performance.

K. Pre-Award Costs

Pre-award costs are not allowed unless approved in writing by FEMA and included in the grant award.

L. Management and Administration Costs

Recipients may use up to 5% of the award for Management and Administration (M&A). M&A activities are defined as directly relating to the management and administration of IPR funds, such as financial management and monitoring. M&A expenses must be based on actual expenses or known contractual costs. M&A requests that simple percentages of the award, without supporting justification, will not be allowed or considered for reimbursement.

M&A costs are not operational costs but are necessary costs incurred in direct support of the federal award or as a consequence of it, such as travel, meeting-related expenses, and salaries of full/part-time staff in direct support of the program. As such, M&A costs can be itemized in financial reports. Other M&A cost examples include preparing and submitting required programmatic and financial reports, establishing and/or maintaining equipment inventory, documenting operational and equipment expenditures for financial accounting purposes, responding to official informational requests from state and federal oversight authorities, and grant performance measurement or evaluation activities. Please see the Preparedness Grants Manual for additional information on Direct Costs.

Funds may be used for the following M&A costs:

- Hiring full-time or part-time staff, including contractors and consultants, to execute the following:
- Management of the current fiscal year IPR award;

- Design and implementation of the current fiscal year IPR submission meeting compliance with reporting/data collection requirements, including data calls;
- Information collection and processing necessary to respond to FEMA data calls;
- Travel expenses (domestic travel only) related to IPR grant administration, in compliance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200; and
- Acquisition of authorized office equipment, including personal computers or laptops for M&A purposes.

M. Authorizing Authority

Section 1513 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. No. 110-53) (6 U.S.C. § 1163)

N. Appropriation Authority

Homeland Security and Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026, Pub. L. No. 119-86



Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

In this step

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Submission Requirements and Application Deadlines

A. Registration

You must have an active [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) account which includes having a UEI. SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. Begin that process today.

For more detailed instructions for obtaining a UEI number or to register, go to [SAM.gov Entity Registration](https://sam.gov) and click “Get Started.” From the same page, you can also click on the Entity Registration Checklist for the information you will need to register.

You must also have an active account with [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov). You can see step-by-step instructions see the [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#).

B. Requesting the Application Package

The application package is accessible in the FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) system. To access the system, go to <https://go.fema.gov/>.

C. Application and Submission Instructions

To apply for an award under this program, all applicants must:

1. Apply for, update, or verify their UEI number and EIN from the Internal Revenue Service;
2. Provide their UEI number in the application;
3. Have an account with login.gov;
4. Register for, update, or verify their [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) account and ensure the account is active before submitting the application;
5. Register in FEMA GO, add the organization to the system, and establish the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). The organization’s electronic business point of contact (eBiz POC) from the SAM registration may need to be involved in this step. For step-by-step instructions, see the [FEMA GO Startup Guide](#);
6. Submit the complete application in FEMA GO; and
7. Always maintain an active SAM registration with current information during which the applicant has an active federal award, an application, or plan under consideration by a federal awarding agency. As part of this, applicants must also provide information on an applicant’s immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded federal contracts or federal financial assistance within the last three years, if applicable.

Per [2 C.F.R. 25.110\(a\)\(2\)\(iv\)](#), if an applicant is experiencing exigent circumstances that prevents it from obtaining an UEI number and completing SAM registration prior to receiving a federal award, the applicant must notify FEMA as soon as possible. Contact fema-grants-news@fema.dhs.gov and provide the details of the exigent circumstances.

D. How to Register to Apply

General Instructions

Registering and applying for an award under this program is a multi-step process and requires time to complete. Below are instructions for registering to apply for FEMA funds. Read the instructions carefully and prepare the requested information before beginning the registration process. Gathering the required information before starting the process will alleviate last-minute searches for required information.

The registration process can take up to four weeks to complete. To ensure an application meets the deadline, applicants are advised to start the required steps well in advance of their submission. Organizations must have a UEI number, EIN, and an active SAM registration.

Obtain a UEI Number

All entities applying for funding, including renewal funding, must have a UEI number.

Obtain Employer Identification Number

In addition to having a UEI number, all entities applying for funding must provide an EIN. The EIN can be obtained from the IRS at [Get an employer identification number](#).

Create a login.gov account

Applicants must have a [login.gov](#) account to register with SAM or update their SAM registration. Applicants can create a login.gov account at [Create an account](#).

Applicants only have to create a login.gov account once. For existing SAM users, use the same email address for both login.gov and SAM.gov so that the two accounts can be linked.

For more information on the login.gov requirements for SAM registration, refer to [SAM.gov](#).

Register with SAM.gov

In addition to having a UEI number, all organizations must register with SAM.gov. Failure to register with SAM.gov will prevent your organization from applying through FEMA GO. SAM.gov registration must be renewed annually and must remain active throughout the entire grant life cycle.

For more detailed instructions for registering with SAM.gov, refer to [Register with SAM.gov](#).

Note: per [2 C.F.R. § 25.200](#) applicants must also provide the applicant's immediate and highest-level owner, subsidiaries, and predecessors that have been awarded federal contracts or federal financial assistance, applicants must also provide the applicant's immediate and highest-level owner, subsidiaries, and predecessors that have been awarded federal contracts or federal financial assistance within the past three years, if applicable.

Register in FEMA GO, Add the Organization to the System, and Establish the AOR

Applicants must register in [FEMA GO](#) and add their organization to the system. The organization's electronic business point of contact (eBiz POC) from the SAM.gov registration may need to be involved in this step. For step-by-step instructions, see the [FEMA GO Startup Guide](#).

Note: FEMA GO will support only the most recent major release of the following browsers:

- Google Chrome;
- Mozilla Firefox;
- Apple Safari; and
- Microsoft Edge.

Applicants using tablet type devices or other browsers may encounter issues with using FEMA GO.

E. Submitting the Final Application

Applicants will be prompted to submit the standard application information, and any program-specific information required in FEMA GO.

After submitting the final application, FEMA GO will provide either an error message or send an email to the submitting AOR confirming the transmission was successfully received.

F. Application Deadline

July 24, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

G. Pre-Application Requirements Deadline

Not Applicable.

H. Post Application Requirements Deadline

Not Applicable.

I. Effects of Missing Deadlines

All applications must be completed in FEMA GO by the application deadline. FEMA GO automatically records proof of submission and generates an electronic date/time stamp when FEMA GO successfully receives an application. The submitting AOR will receive an email with an official date/time stamp and a FEMA GO tracking number to serve as proof of timely submission prior to the application deadline.

Applicants experiencing system-related issues have until 3 p.m. ET on the date applications are due to notify FEMA. No new system-related issues will be addressed after this deadline. Applications not received by the application submission deadline will not be accepted.



Step 3: Write Your Application

In this step

Application contents and format [22](#)

Application Contents and Format

A. Application Requirements

The following forms or information are integrated into the application package in FEMA GO. Applicants should review these forms at [SF-424 Family | Grants.gov](#) before applying to ensure they are providing all required information.

1. SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance
2. Grants.gov Lobbying Form, Certification Regarding Lobbying
3. SF-424A, Budget Information (Non-Construction)
 - If construction is permitted under the program, submit SF-424C, Budget Information (Construction), instead of SF-424A
4. SF-424B, Standard Assurances (Non-Construction)
 - If construction is permitted under the program, submit SF-424D, Standard Assurances (Construction), instead of SF-424B
5. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

B. Required Documents, Content, and Formatting

The following forms or information are required to be submitted via FEMA GO. The Standard Forms (SF) are also available at Forms | Grants.gov SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

- SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance
- Grants.gov Lobbying Form, Certification Regarding Lobbying
- SF-424A, Budget Information (Non-Construction)
- For construction under an award, submit SF-424C, Budget Information (Construction), in addition to or instead of SF-424A
- SF-424B, Standard Assurances (Non-Construction)
- For construction under an award, submit SF-424D, Standard Assurances (Construction), in addition to or instead of SF-424B SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

C. Program-Specific Required Documents and Information

The following program-specific forms or information are required to be submitted in FEMA GO:

- Associated Investment Justifications (IJs)
- Detailed budgets
- Operational Package Sustainability Plan
- Associated Memoranda of Understanding/Memoranda of Agreement
- Election Security Requirements

Investment Justification

As part of the FY 2026 IPR application process, applicants must develop a formal IJ that addresses each initiative being proposed for funding, including a project's M&A costs. *An agency may submit up to eight IJs. Agencies may also submit up to five additional IJs for projects related to law enforcement providers that are not part of the public transportation agency. Law enforcement providers may only submit projects that support a transit system's operational security capability and capacity. IJs must demonstrate how*

proposed projects address gaps and deficiencies (identified in a current vulnerability assessment) and must link to one or more core capabilities identified in the NPG. Please see grants.gov for the IJ template.

Applicants may attach the vulnerability assessment or cite relevant sections/passages within an IJ to demonstrate the linkage between the project request and the identified vulnerability. IJs should also describe an agency's current security posture to demonstrate why the proposed project is necessary and appropriate. IJs must demonstrate the ability to provide enhancements consistent with the purpose of the program and guidance provided by DHS/FEMA. Applicants shall submit a separate IJ for each proposed project. IPR projects must be both 1) feasible and effective at reducing the risks for which the project was designed; and 2) able to be fully completed within the period of performance. Applicants must ensure that IJs are consistent with all requirements outlined in this funding notice. Applicants must provide information in the following categories for each proposed investment:

1. Background
2. Strategic and Program Priorities
3. Impact
4. Funding/Implementation Plan

Applicants must use the following file naming convention when submitting the IJs as part of the FY 2026 IPR: *Region_Agency Name_IJ Number (Example: AMTRAK_IJ 1)*

Detailed Budget

Applicants must provide a detailed budget for the funds requested. The detailed budget must be submitted with the grant application as a file attachment within FEMA GO. The budget must be complete, reasonable, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed project. The budget should provide the basis of computation of all project-related costs, any appropriate narrative, and a detailed justification of M&A costs. A recipient may not obligate, expend, or draw down funds until a budget and budget narrative have been approved by DHS/FEMA. The budget detail worksheet may be used as a guide to assist applicants in the preparation of the budget and budget narrative. **Note:** Design and Planning/Engineering costs must be clearly identified in a separate line item in order for partial funding to be released prior to Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) review and approval. Please see the Preparedness Grants Manual for information on the EHP review process.

Detailed budgets must be submitted with the grant application as a file attachment within FEMA GO. Applicants must use the following file naming convention when submitting detailed budgets as part of the IPR: Applicants must use the following file naming convention when submitting detailed budgets as part of the IPR: *Region_Agency Name_IJ Number_Budget (Example: AMTRAK_IJ_1_Budget)*

Operational Packages (OPacks)

Applicants that meet basic OPack eligibility requirements may elect to pursue OPack funding for Canine Teams, Mobile Explosives Detection Screening Teams, and Anti-Terrorism Teams, for new capabilities as well as to sustain existing OPacks. Applicants pursuing both new OPacks and sustainment funding for existing OPacks must indicate in their IJs which option is the higher priority for their agency. Additionally, applicants pursuing either new teams or sustainment of existing teams must include the number of OPack

teams already in place (either funded by the agency or by IPR). In addition, recipients must commit to minimum training standards for all federally funded OPack positions. For an application for an OPack to be considered eligible, it must include a *Five-Year Security Capital and Operational Sustainment Plan*. Please see www.grants.gov for the required template. Please refer to the Operational Activities section below for more information.

Sensitive Security Information (SSI) Requirements

A portion of the information that is routinely submitted in the course of applying for funding or reporting under certain programs or that is provided in the course of an entity's grant management activities under those programs that are under federal control may be subject to protection under an SSI marking and must be properly identified and marked accordingly. SSI is a control designation used by DHS/FEMA to protect transportation security-related information. It is applied to information about security programs, vulnerability and threat assessments, screening processes, technical specifications of certain screening equipment and objects used to test screening equipment, and equipment used for communicating security information relating to air, land, or maritime transportation. Further information can be found at [49 C.F.R. Part 1520](#), Protection of Sensitive Security Information.

For the purposes of the IPR, and due to the high-frequency of SSI found in IPR-related IJs, all IPR IJs shall be considered SSI and treated as such until they have been subject to review for SSI by DHS/FEMA. Therefore, applicants shall label all application documents as SSI in accordance with [49 C.F.R. § 1520.13](#).

D. Post-Application Requirements for Successful Applicants

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Implementation

- a. Before any federal preparedness awards are allocated, recipients must ensure and maintain adoption and implementation of NIMS. The list of objectives used for progress and achievement reporting is on FEMA's website at [NIMS Implementation and Training](#).
- b. Please see the [Preparedness Grants Manual](#) for more information on NIMS.



Step 4: Learn about the Award Review Process

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Application Review Information

A. Threshold Criteria

FEMA conducts reviews of all applications received to compare them for duplication including the narrative statements and statistical data. Therefore, all elements of the narrative statement must be specific and unique to the applying entity, and all statistical data must be accurate. Applications with narrative statements that have substantial duplication of statements, sentences, or paragraphs to other submitted applications, or inaccurate data that may mislead reviewers may be disqualified. Discovery of falsification, fabrication, or plagiarism of other grant proposals will disqualify the application(s).

Note: FEMA evaluates the application on its merit, veracity, and accuracy to ascertain how the narrative statement(s) outlined within the application depicts the applicant's and their organization's uniqueness, their particular risks, and how selecting them over a similarly situated applicant advances the objectives of the IPR program to assist transportation agencies with the capabilities to respond to threats and assure that traveling public has adequate protection from all hazards.

B. Application Criteria

Overview

The FY 2026 IPR application will be evaluated through a review process for completeness, adherence to programmatic guidelines, and anticipated effectiveness of the proposed investments. Amtrak is the only entity eligible to apply for IPR and must comply with all administrative requirements described herein including the submission of IJs, budgets, and other application materials, as required.

Investment Justification Review

IJs will be reviewed and selected based on the following criteria:

1. Funding priorities. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the extent to which they address the priorities contained in this NOFO.
2. Ability to reduce risk of catastrophic events. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on their ability to reduce risks associated with potential terrorist attacks and all other types of hazards. For projects where an applicant's collaboration with others is relevant to the project's ability to reduce risks, projects will be evaluated based on the degree to which the proposal adequately details how the applicant will use investments to overcome existing logistical, technological, legal, policy and other impediments to collaborating, networking, sharing information, cooperating and fostering a culture of national preparedness with federal, state, regional and nonprofit partners. In evaluating an applicant's ability to collaborate, FEMA will consider any information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources.
3. Sustainability without additional federal funds and leveraging of other funding. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized regarding the extent to which they exhibit a likelihood of success or continued success without requiring additional federal assistance.
4. Timelines. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on Amtrak's ability to complete the proposed project within submitted timeframes

Feasibility and Effectiveness Review

Grant projects must be both (1) feasible and effective at reducing the risks for which the project was designed, and (2) able to be fully completed within the three-year period of performance. DHS/FEMA will use the information provided in the application and any supporting documentation to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of proposed grant projects. Information that would assist in this feasibility and effectiveness determination includes the following:

- Scope of work (purpose and objectives of the project, identification of what is being protected);
- Desired outcomes, including expected long-term impact where applicable;
- Summary of status of planning and design accomplished to date (e.g., included in a capital improvement plan); and
- Project schedule(s).

Recipients are expected to conform, as applicable, with accepted engineering practices, established codes, standards, modeling techniques, and best practices.

C. Financial Integrity Criteria

Before making an award, the awarding agency is required to review OMB-designated databases for applicants' eligibility and financial integrity information. This is required by the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 ([Pub. L. No. 116-117, § 2 \(2020\)](#), [41 U.S.C. § 2313](#), and the "Do Not Pay Initiative" ([31 U.S.C. 3354](#)). For more details, please see [2 C.F.R. § 200.206](#).

Thus, the Financial Integrity Criteria may include the following risk-based considerations of the applicant:

1. Financial stability.
2. Quality of management systems and ability to meet management standards.
3. History of performance in managing federal award.
4. Reports and findings from audits.
5. Ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements.

D. Supplemental Financial Integrity Criteria and Risk Review

Before making an award expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, defined at 41 U.S.C. § 134, over the period of performance:

1. The awarding agency is required by [41 U.S.C. § 2313](#) to review or consider certain information found in SAM.gov. For details, please see [2 C.F.R. § 200.206\(a\)\(2\)](#).
2. An applicant may review and comment on any information in the responsibility/qualification records available in [SAM.gov](#).
3. Before making decisions in the risk review required by [2 C.F.R. § 200.206](#), the awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant.

E. Reviewer Selection

The Executive Committee is comprised of FEMA's joint Federal agency working group member SMEs from Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and FEMA. Administrative reviewers are comprised of full-time FEMA staff assigned to the IPR. All reviewers are provided with review guidelines that are aligned to

this NOFO and include references to ensure consistency and standardization of reviews.

The application will first be screened for eligibility and then reviewed by subject matter experts on an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will be comprised of FEMA, as well as TSA, and will evaluate and score each project based on the evaluation criteria outlined in the following sections. The Executive Committee will recommend funding decisions and projects that are presented to the Secretary of Homeland Security. Ultimately, final funding determinations are at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

F. Merit Review Process

Not applicable.

G. Final Selection

The Executive Committee will recommend funding decisions and projects that are presented to the Secretary of Homeland Security. Ultimately, final funding determinations are at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Intergovernmental Review

A. Requirement Description and State Single Point of Contact

An intergovernmental review may be required. Applicants must contact their state's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process under Executive Order 12372. No further action is needed if you do not find a contact for your state in the [latest version of the SPOC list](#).

Note: This requirement does not apply to tribal governments.



Step 5: Learn What Happens After Award

In this step

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Award Notices

A. Notice of Award

The AOR should carefully read the federal award package before accepting the federal award. The federal award package includes instructions on administering the federal award as well as terms and conditions for the award.

By applying, applicants agree to comply with the prerequisites stated in this NOFO and the material terms and conditions of the federal award, should they receive an award.

FEMA will provide the federal award package to the applicant electronically in FEMA GO. Award packages include an Award Letter, Summary Award Memo, Agreement Articles, and Obligating Document. An award package notification email is sent by the grant application system to the submitting AOR.

Recipients must accept their awards no later than 60 days from the award date. Recipients shall notify FEMA of their intent to accept the award and proceed with work in the FEMA GO system.

Funds will remain on hold until the recipient accepts the award in FEMA GO and all other conditions of the award have been satisfied, or until the award is otherwise rescinded. Failure to accept a grant award within the specified timeframe may result in a loss of funds.

B. Pass-Through Requirements

Not Applicable. The IPR does not permit pass-through funding.

C. Note Regarding Pre-Award Costs

Even if pre-award costs are allowed, beginning performance prior to award is at the applicant or sub-applicant's own risk.

D. Obligation of Funds

The grant funds are obligated in accordance with applicable laws, and no later than upon award.

E. Notification to Unsuccessful Applicants

Not applicable.

Post-Award Requirements and Administration

A. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Presidential Executive Orders

Recipients must comply with the requirements of Presidential Executive Orders related to grants (also known as federal assistance and financial assistance), the full text of which are incorporated by reference.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in *County of Santa Clara et al. v. Noem, et al.*, No. 25-cv-08330-WHO (N.D. Cal.), this requirement does not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect. If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, this requirement will immediately become effective. Also, pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in *City of Chicago et al. v. Noem, et al.*, No. 25-CV-12765 (N.D. Ill.), this requirement does not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect. If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, this requirement will immediately become effective.

In accordance with [Executive Order 14305, Restoring American Airspace Sovereignty \(June 6, 2025\)](#), and to the extent allowed by law, eligible state, local, tribal, and territorial grant recipients under this NOFO are permitted to purchase unmanned aircraft systems, otherwise known as drones, or equipment or services for the detection, tracking, or identification of drones and drone signals, consistent with the legal authorities of state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies. Recipients must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and adhere to any statutory requirements on the use of federal funds for such unmanned aircraft systems, equipment, or services.

Subrecipient Monitoring and Management

Pass-through entities must comply with the requirements for subrecipient monitoring and management as set forth in [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.331-333](#).

Termination of a Federal Award

1. The termination condition below applies to the grant award and the “Termination of a Federal Award” term and condition in the FY 2026 DHS Standard Terms and Conditions does not.
2. Termination of the federal award by FEMA
FEMA, in its sole discretion, may terminate the federal award in whole or in part for one of the following reasons consistent with [2 C.F.R. § 200.340](#):
 - a. If the recipient or subrecipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the federal award.

- b. With the consent of the recipient, in which case FEMA and the recipient must agree upon the termination conditions. These conditions include the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated.
 - c. If the federal award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities. Under this provision, FEMA may terminate the award for these purposes if any of the following reasons apply:
 - i. FEMA determines that a specific award objective is ineffective at achieving program goals as described in this NOFO;
 - ii. FEMA determines that an objective of the award as described in this NOFO will be ineffective at achieving program goals or agency priorities;
 - iii. FEMA determines that the design of the grant program is flawed relative to program goals or agency priorities;
 - iv. FEMA determines that the grant program is not aligned to either the DHS Strategic Plan, the FEMA Strategic Plan, or successor policies or documents;
 - v. FEMA changes or re-evaluates the goals or priorities of the grant program and determines that the award will be ineffective at achieving the updated program goals or agency priorities; or
 - vi. For other reasons based on program goals or agency priorities described in the termination notice provided to the recipient pursuant to [2 C.F.R. § 200.341](#).
 - d. For convenience, including if the award no longer advances the national interest. Termination for convenience only applies to discretionary awards, as that term is defined at [2 C.F.R. § 200.1](#). The term “discretionary award” does not include grants where legislation establishes an entitlement to the funds on the part of the recipient, such as block grants or those awarded based on a statutory formula.
3. Termination of a Subaward by the Pass-Through Entity
 - a. The pass-through entity may terminate a subaward in whole or in part for one of the following reasons identified in [2 C.F.R. § 200.340](#):
 - i. If the subrecipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the federal award.
 - ii. With the consent of the subrecipient, in which case the pass-through entity and the subrecipient must agree upon the termination conditions. These conditions include the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated.
 - b. If the pass-through entity’s award has been terminated the pass-through entity must terminate its subawards.
 4. Termination by the Recipient or Subrecipient

The recipient or subrecipient may terminate the federal award in whole or in part as identified in [2 C.F.R. § 200.340](#) upon sending FEMA or pass-through entity a written notification of the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if FEMA or pass-through entity determines that the remaining portion of the federal award will not accomplish the purposes for which the federal award was made, FEMA or pass-through entity may terminate the federal award in its entirety.
 5. Impacts of Termination
 - a. When FEMA terminates the federal award in whole or in part before the end of the period of

performance due to the recipient's or subrecipient's material failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the federal award, FEMA will report the termination in SAM.gov in the manner described at [2 C.F.R. § 200.340\(c\)](#).

- b. When the federal award is terminated in part or its entirety, FEMA or pass-through entity and recipient or subrecipient remain responsible for compliance with the requirements in [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.344](#) and [200.345](#).

6. Notification requirements

FEMA or the pass-through entity must provide written notice of the termination in a manner consistent with [2 C.F.R. § 200.341](#). The federal award will be terminated on the date of the notification unless stated otherwise in the notification.

7. Opportunities to Object and Appeals

Where applicable, when FEMA terminates the federal award, the written notification of termination will provide the opportunity and describe the process to object and provide information challenging the action, pursuant to [2 C.F.R. § 200.342](#).

8. Effects of Suspension and Termination

The allowability of costs to the recipient or subrecipient resulting from financial obligations incurred by the recipient or subrecipient during a suspension or after the termination of a federal award are subject to [2 C.F.R. § 200.343](#).

B. DHS Standard Terms and Conditions

A recipient under this funding opportunity must comply with the DHS Standard Terms and Conditions in effect as of the federal award, unless a term and condition specifically indicates otherwise. The DHS Standard Terms and Conditions are available online and can be found at [DHS Standard Terms and Conditions | Homeland Security](#). For continuation awards, the terms and conditions for the initial federal award will apply unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the continuation award. The specific version of the DHS Standard Terms and Conditions applicable to the federal award will be in the federal award package.

A recipient under this funding opportunity must comply with the FY 2026 Department of Homeland Security Standard Terms and Conditions, with the following exceptions. The term titled "Communication and Cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security and Immigration Officials" and paragraph (2)(a)(ii) of the term titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government's Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act" do not apply to any federal award under this funding opportunity.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in County of Santa Clara et al. v. Noem, et al., No. 25-cv-08330-WHO (N.D. Cal.), the following terms and conditions do not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect: (1) The DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government's Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act"; and (2) the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "All Executive Orders Related to Grants". If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, both terms will

immediately become effective. As stated above, Paragraph (2)(a)(ii) of the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled “Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act” will not apply even if the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in *City of Chicago et al. v. Noem, et al.*, No. 25-CV-12765 (N.D. Ill.), the following terms and conditions do not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect: (1) the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled " Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act"; and (2) the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled " All Executive Orders Related to Grants". If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, both terms will immediately become effective. As stated above, paragraph (2)(a)(ii) of the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled “Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act” will not apply even if the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on October 31, 2025, in *City of Seattle v. Trump, et al.*, No. 2:25-cv-01435-BJR (W.D. Wa.), the following terms and conditions do not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect: the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled " Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act ". If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, the term will immediately become effective. As stated above, paragraph (2)(a)(ii) the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled “Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act” will not apply even if the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished.

Note: While not a requirement in the DHS Standard Terms and Conditions, as a best practice, entities receiving funds through this program should ensure that cybersecurity is integrated into the design, development, operation, and maintenance of investments that impact information technology (IT) and/ or operational technology (OT) systems.

Additionally, the recipient and subrecipient must take reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard information including protected personally identifiable information (PII) and other types of information per [2 C.F.R. § 200.303\(e\)](#).

C. Financial Reporting Requirements

Recipients must report obligations and expenditures through a federal financial report. The Federal Financial Report (FFR) form, also known as SF-425, is integrated in FEMA GO but, for reference, is available online at [Post-Award Reporting Forms](#).

Recipients must submit the FFR quarterly throughout the period of performance (POP) as detailed below:

Reporting Period	Report Due Date
------------------	-----------------

October 1 – December 31	January 30
January 1 – March 31	April 30
April 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – September 30	October 30

The final FFR is due within 120 days after the end of the POP.

FEMA may withhold future federal awards and cash payments if FFRs are not timely, complete, detailed, and accurate. FFRs showing inadequate progress may also cause future federal awards and cash payments to be withheld.

D. Programmatic Performance Reporting Requirements

1. A Performance Report must be submitted semi-annually throughout the POP.
2. A Performance Report must include progress towards project(s) completion within the respective reporting period.
3. The Progress Report must be submitted through FEMA GO.
4. Performance Report Due Dates are as detailed below:

<i>Reporting Period</i>	<i>Report Due Date</i>
January 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – December 31	January 30

E. Closeout Reporting Requirements

Within 120 days after the end of the period of performance, or after an amendment has been issued to close out a federal award, recipients must submit the following:

1. The final request for payment, if applicable;
2. The final FFR;
3. The final progress report detailing all accomplishments.
4. A qualitative narrative summary of the impact of those accomplishments throughout the period of performance; and
5. Other documents required by this NOFO, terms and conditions of the federal award, or other DHS Component guidance.

After the awarding agency approves these reports, it will issue a closeout notice. The notice will indicate the period of performance as closed, list any remaining funds to be de-obligated, and address the record maintenance requirement. Unless a longer period applies, such as due to an audit or litigation, for equipment or real property used beyond the period of performance, or due to other circumstances outlined in [2 C.F.R. § 200.334](#), this maintenance requirement is three years from the date of the final FFR.

Also, pass-through entities are responsible for closing out those subawards as described in [2 C.F.R. § 200.344\(e\)](#); subrecipients are still required to submit closeout materials within 90 calendar days of the subaward period of performance end date. When a subrecipient completes all closeout requirements, pass-through entities must promptly complete all closeout actions in time for the recipient to submit all

necessary documentation and information to the awarding agency during the closeout of their prime award.

The recipient is responsible for returning any balances of unobligated or unliquidated funds that have been drawn down that are not authorized to be retained per [2 C.F.R. § 200.344\(e\)](#).

Administrative Closeout

Administrative closeout is a mechanism for FEMA to unilaterally execute closeout of an award. FEMA will use available award information in lieu of final recipient reports, per [2 C.F.R. § 200.344\(h\)-\(i\)](#). It is an activity of last resort, and if FEMA administratively closes an award, this may negatively impact a recipient's ability to obtain future funding.

F. Additional Reporting Requirements

Anytime there is a change in personnel for any of the awardees or if applicable, subrecipients, their information needs to be submitted for approval (all the previous personal information identified).

G. Disclosing Information per 2 C.F.R. § 180.335

Before entering into a federal award, the applicant must notify the awarding agency if it knows that the applicant or any of the principals (as defined by [2 C.F.R. § 180.995](#)) for the federal award:

1. Are presently excluded or disqualified;
2. Have been convicted within the preceding three years of any of the offenses listed in § 180.800(a) or had a civil judgment rendered against you for one of those offenses within that time period;
3. Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with the commission of any of the offenses listed in [2 C.F.R. § 180.800\(a\)](#); or
4. Have had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated within the preceding three years for cause or default.

This requirement is fully described in [2 C.F.R. § 180.335](#). Additionally, [2 C.F.R. § 180.350](#) requires recipients to provide immediate notice to the awarding agency at any time after entering a federal award if:

1. The recipient learns that either it failed to earlier disclose information as required by [2 C.F.R. § 180.335](#);
2. Due to changed circumstances, the applicant or any of the principals for the federal award now meet the criteria at [2 C.F.R. § 180.335](#) listed above.

H. Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

[Appendix XII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200](#) states the terms and conditions for recipient integrity and performance matters used for this funding opportunity.

If the total value of all active federal grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts for a recipient exceeds \$10 million at any time during the period of performance:

1. The recipient must maintain the currency of information reported in SAM.gov about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in [paragraph \(b\)](#) of Appendix XII;
2. The required reporting frequency is described in [paragraph \(d\)](#) of Appendix XII.

I. Single Audit Reports

A recipient expending \$1 million or more in federal awards (as defined by [2 C.F.R. § 200.1](#)) during its fiscal year must undergo an audit. This may be either a single audit complying with [2 C.F.R. § 200.514](#) or a program-specific audit complying with [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.501](#) and [200.507](#). Audits must follow [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F, 2 C.F.R. § 200.501](#), and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) [Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards](#).

J. Monitoring and Oversight

Per [2 C.F.R. § 200.337](#), DHS and its authorized representatives have the right of access to any records of the recipient or subrecipient pertinent to a federal award to perform audits, site visits, and any other official use. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to the recipient's or subrecipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents or the federal award in general.

Pursuant to this right and per [2 C.F.R. § 200.329](#), DHS may conduct desk reviews and make site visits to review and evaluate project accomplishments and management control systems as well as provide any required technical assistance. Recipients and subrecipients must respond in a timely and accurate manner to DHS requests for information relating to a federal award.

K. Program Evaluation

Title I of the [Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018](#) (Evidence Act), Pub. L. No. 115-435 (2019), urges federal agencies to use program evaluation as a critical tool to learn, improve delivery, and elevate program service and delivery across the program lifecycle. Evaluation means “an assessment using systematic data collection and analysis of one or more programs, policies, and organizations intended to assess their effectiveness and efficiency.” Evidence Act, § 101 (codified at 5 U.S.C. § 311). OMB A-11, Section 290 (Evaluation and Evidence-Building Activities) further outlines the standards and practices for evaluation activities. Federal agencies are required to specify any requirements for recipient participation in program evaluation activities ([2 C.F.R. § 200.301](#)). Program evaluation activities incorporated from the outset in the NOFO, and program design and implementation allow recipients and agencies to meaningfully document and measure progress and achievement towards program goals and objectives, and identify program outcomes and lessons learned, as part of demonstrating recipient performance ([2 C.F.R. § 200.301](#)).

As such, recipients and subrecipients are required to participate in a Program Office (PO) or a DHS Component-led evaluation, if selected. This may be carried out by a third party on behalf of the PO or the DHS Component. Such an evaluation may involve information collections including, but not limited to records of the recipients; surveys, interviews, or discussions with individuals who benefit from the federal award, program operating personnel, and award recipients; and site visits or other observation of recipient activities, as specified in a DHS Component or PO-approved evaluation plan. More details about evaluation requirements may be provided in the federal award, if available at that time, or following the award as evaluation requirements are finalized. Evaluation costs incurred during the period of performance are allowable costs (either as direct or indirect) in accordance with [2 C.F.R. § 200.413](#).

Recipients and subrecipients are also encouraged, but not required, to participate in any additional evaluations after the period of performance ends, although any costs incurred to participate in such evaluations are not allowed and may not be charged to the federal award.

L. Payment Information

Recipients will submit payment requests in FEMA GO under this program.

Instructions to Grant Recipients Pursuing Payments

FEMA is instituting additional reviews on all grant payments and obligations to ensure allowability in accordance with [2 C.F.R. § 200.305](#). These measures will ensure funds are disbursed appropriately while continuing to support and prioritize communities who rely on FEMA for assistance. Once a recipient submits a payment request, FEMA will review the request. If FEMA approves a payment, recipients will be notified by FEMA GO and the payment will be delivered pursuant to the recipient's SAM.gov financial information. If FEMA disapproves a payment, FEMA will inform the recipient.

Processing and Payment Timeline

FEMA must comply with regulations governing payments to grant recipients per [2 C.F.R. § 200.305](#). For grant recipients other than States, [2 C.F.R. § 200.305\(b\)\(3\)](#) stipulates that FEMA is to make payments on a reimbursement basis within 30 days after receipt of the payment request, unless FEMA reasonably believes the request to be improper. For state recipients, [2 C.F.R. § 200.305\(a\)](#) instructs that federal grant payments are governed by Treasury-State Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) agreement ("Treasury-State agreement") and default procedures codified at [31 C.F.R. part 205](#) and Treasury Financial Manual 4A-200, "Overall Disbursing Rules for All Federal Agencies."

Treasury-State agreements generally apply to "major federal assistance programs" that are governed by [31 C.F.R. part 205, subpart A](#) and are identified in the Treasury-State agreement in [31 C.F.R. §§ 205.2, 205.6](#). Where a federal assistance (grant) program is not governed by subpart A, payment and funds transfers from FEMA to the state are subject to [31 C.F.R. part 205, subpart B](#). Subpart B requires FEMA to "limit a funds transfer to a state to the minimum amounts needed by the state and must time the disbursement to be in accord with the actual, immediate cash requirements of the state in carrying out a federal assistance program or project. The timing and amount of funds transfers must be as close as is administratively feasible to a state's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs" per [31 C.F.R. § 205.33\(a\)](#). Nearly all FEMA grants are not "major federal assistance programs." As a result, payments to states for those grants are subject to the "default" rules of [31 C.F.R. part 205, subpart B](#).

If additional information is needed, a request for information will be issued by FEMA to the recipient; recipients are strongly encouraged to respond to any additional FEMA request for information inquiries within three business days. If an adequate response is not received, the request may be denied, and the entity may need to submit a new reimbursement request; this will re-start the 30-day timeline.

Submission Process

All non-disaster grant program reimbursement requests must be reviewed and approved by FEMA prior to drawdowns.

For all non-disaster reimbursement requests (regardless of system), please ensure submittal of the following information:

1. Grant ID / Award Number
2. Total amount requested for drawdown
3. Purpose of drawdown and timeframe covered (must be within the award performance period)
4. Subrecipient Funding Details (if applicable).
 - Is funding provided directly or indirectly to a subrecipient?
 - If **no**, include statement “This grant funding is not being directed to a subrecipient.”
 - If **yes**, provide the following details:
 - The name, mission statement, and purpose of each subrecipient receiving funds, along with the amount allocated and the specific role or activity being reimbursed.
 - Whether the subrecipient’s work or mission involves supporting aliens, regardless of whether FEMA funds support such activities.
 - Whether the payment request includes an activity involving support to aliens.
 - Whether the subrecipient has any diversity, equity, and inclusion practices.¹
5. Supporting documentation to demonstrate that expenses are allowable, allocable, reasonable, and necessary under [2 C.F.R. part 200](#) and in compliance with the grant’s NOFO, award terms, and applicable federal regulations.

M. Immigration Conditions

The term titled “Communication and Cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security and Immigration Officials” and paragraph (2)(a)(ii) of the term titled “Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act” in the FY 2026 DHS Standard Terms and Conditions do not apply to any federal award under this funding opportunity.

Other Information

¹ Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in *County of Santa Clara et al. v. Noem, et al.*, No. 25-cv-08330-WHO (N.D. Cal.), the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act" does not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect. If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, the term will immediately become effective.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on November 21, 2025, in *City of Chicago et al. v. Noem, et al.*, No. 25-CV-12765 (N.D. Ill.), the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act" does not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect. If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, the term will immediately become effective.

Pursuant to the preliminary injunction order issued on October 31, 2025, in *City of Seattle v. Trump, et al.*, No. 2:25-cv-01435-BJR (W.D. Wa.), the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government's Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act" does not apply to awards or subawards issued to any of the plaintiffs subject to the preliminary injunction order while the order remains in effect. If the preliminary injunction is extended to cover additional plaintiffs, this provision will also not apply to any awards or subawards issued to those plaintiffs. If the preliminary injunction is stayed, vacated, or extinguished, the term will immediately become effective.

As stated above, Paragraph(2)(a)(ii) of the DHS Standard Term and Condition titled "Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws Material to the Government’s Payment Decisions Under the False Claims Act" will not apply even if any of these preliminary injunctions are stayed, vacated, or extinguished.

A. Period of Performance Extension

Extensions to the POP are allowed.

Recipients should consult with their FEMA Preparedness Officer for requirements related to a performance period extension.

See the [Preparedness Grants Manual](#) for information on period of performance extensions.

B. Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Compliance

FEMA is required to consider effects of its actions on the environment and historic properties to ensure that activities, grants and programs funded by FEMA comply with federal Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) laws, Executive Orders, regulations, and policies.

Recipients and subrecipients proposing projects with the potential to impact the environment or cultural resources, such as the modification or renovation of existing buildings, structures, and facilities, either new construction or replacement of buildings, structures, and facilities, must participate in the FEMA EHP review process. This includes conducting early engagement to help identify EHP resources, such as threatened or endangered species, and historic properties; submitting a detailed project description with supporting documentation to determine whether the proposed project has the potential to impact EHP resources; and, identifying mitigation measures, alternative courses of action, or both that may lessen impacts to those resources.

FEMA is sometimes required to consult with other regulatory agencies and the public to complete the review process. Federal law requires EHP review to be completed before federal funds are released to carry out proposed projects. FEMA may not be able to fund projects that are not in compliance with applicable EHP laws, Executive Orders, regulations, and policies. FEMA may recommend mitigation measures, alternative courses of action, or both to lessen impacts to EHP resources and bring the project into EHP compliance. If a proposed project has been evaluated by another federal agency, FEMA may be able to streamline portions of the EHP review by adopting or supplementing previous analyses performed under the National Environmental Policy Act. If a proposed project has previously been reviewed by another federal agency, please provide those documents for FEMA's consideration.

EHP guidance is found at [Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation](#). The site contains links to documents identifying agency EHP responsibilities and program requirements, such as implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act and other EHP laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. DHS and FEMA EHP policy is also found in the [EHP Directive & Instruction](#).

All FEMA actions, including grants, must comply with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) criteria or any more restrictive federal, state, or local floodplain management standards or building code ([44 C.F.R. § 9.11\(d\)\(6\)](#)). For actions located within or that may affect a floodplain or wetland, the following alternatives must be considered: a) no action; b) alternative locations; and c) alternative actions.

The EHP screening form is available at [Environmental & Historic Preservation Grant Preparation Resources](#).

C. Procurement Compliance

When purchasing under a FEMA award, recipients and subrecipients must comply with the federal procurement standards in [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327](#). To assist with determining whether an action is a procurement or instead a subaward, please consult [2 C.F.R. § 200.331](#).

For detailed guidance on the federal procurement standards, recipients and subrecipients should refer to various materials issued by FEMA's Procurement Disaster Assistance Team (PDAT). The [Procurement Under Grants Policy Guide \(PUGPG\)](#) and additional resources can be found on the PDAT website at [Procurement and Contracting](#).

When conducting procurement transactions under a federal award, states, Indian Tribes, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and their agencies must follow their own documented procurement policies and procedures as outlined in [2 C.F.R. § 200.317](#). They are also required to comply with rules for domestic preferences ([2 C.F.R. § 200.322](#)), the use of recovered materials ([2 C.F.R. § 200.323](#)), and ensure all necessary contract provisions are included ([2 C.F.R. § 200.327](#)). If these entities do not have documented procurement policies or procedures, they must follow the federal procurement rules listed in [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318–200.327](#).

Note: Indian Tribes are exempt from the recovered materials requirements in [2 C.F.R. § 200.323](#).

Local government and nonprofit recipients or subrecipients must have and use their own documented procurement procedures that reflect applicable state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) laws and regulations, provided that the procurements conform to applicable federal law and the standards identified in [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318–200.327](#).

Important Changes to Procurement Standards in 2 C.F.R. Part 200

On April 22, 2024, OMB updated various parts of Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, among them the procurement standards. These revisions apply to all FEMA awards with a federal award date or disaster declaration date on or after October 1, 2024, unless specified otherwise. The changes include updates to the Federal Procurement Standards, which govern how FEMA award recipients and subrecipients must purchase under a FEMA award.

More information on OMB's revisions to the Federal Procurement Standards can be found in [Purchasing Under a FEMA Award: 2024 OMB Revisions Fact Sheet](#).

Threshold Increases Effective October 1, 2025

Effective October 1, 2025, the United States Office of Management and Budget increased the Federal micro-purchase threshold from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and the Federal simplified acquisition threshold from \$250,000 to \$350,000. These updated thresholds now apply to recipient and subrecipient activities under [2 C.F.R. Part 200](#), including procurements and budget approval requests executed on or after October 1, 2025, for all open financial assistance awards.

Procurement Standards: Competition and Conflict of Interest

All procurement transactions under a federal award must provide for full and open competition. To ensure compliance, recipients and subrecipients must avoid practices that restrict competition. Examples of restrictive practices include, but are not limited to:

- Placing unreasonable requirements on firms to qualify to do business;
- Requiring unnecessary experience or excessive bonding;
- Engaging in noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or affiliated companies;
- Awarding noncompetitive contracts to consultants on retainer;
- Specifying only a “brand name” product instead of allowing “an equal” product to be offered; and
- Taking arbitrary actions during the procurement process.

Real Conflict of Interest

Under [2 C.F.R. § 200.318\(c\)\(1\)](#), local government and nonprofit recipients or subrecipients must maintain written standards of conduct to address conflicts of interest. Employees, officers, or agents involved in the selection, award, or administration of contracts are prohibited from participating if they have a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict arises when the individual, their immediate family, partner, or an organization they are affiliated with has a financial or other interest in, or stands to benefit from, a firm considered for a contract.

Additionally, officers, employees, and agents may not solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or subcontractors. However, recipients or subrecipients may establish standards for situations where the financial interest is not substantial, or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. Violations of these standards must result in disciplinary actions as outlined in the recipient’s or subrecipient’s policies.

Organizational Conflict of Interest

Under [2 C.F.R. § 200.318\(c\)\(2\)](#), recipients or subrecipients with a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local, tribal, or territorial (SLTT) government must maintain written standards of conduct to address organizational conflicts of interest. An organizational conflict of interest occurs when a relationship with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary compromises, or appears to compromise, the recipient’s or subrecipient’s impartiality in conducting a procurement action.

Recipients or subrecipients must disclose any potential organizational conflicts of interest in writing to FEMA or the pass-through entity, as required by FEMA policy.

Contractors Drafting Requirements

Per [2 C.F.R. § 200.319\(b\)](#), contractors that develop or draft specifications, statements of work, invitations for bids, or requests for proposals are prohibited from competing for those procurements. FEMA considers this an organizational conflict of interest and extends this restriction to contractors who assist recipients or subrecipients in developing grant applications, project plans, or budgets.

This prohibition also applies to former employees who worked on such activities while employed by the recipient or subrecipient. Unless the recipient or subrecipient solicits and awards a contract that explicitly includes both the development and execution of specifications (or similar elements), and the contract was procured in compliance with [2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317–200.327](#), federal funds cannot be used to

pay the contractor to perform the work. This rule applies to all contracts funded with federal grant funds, including pre-award costs (e.g., grant writer fees) and post-award costs (e.g., grant management fees).

Supply Schedules and Purchasing Programs

Generally, a recipient or subrecipient may seek to procure goods or services from a federal supply schedule, state supply schedule, or group purchasing agreement.

Information on General Services Administration programs, including multiple award schedules, for states, Indian Tribes, and local governments, and their instrumentalities, can be found in [Purchasing Resource and Support for State and Local Government](#).

Procurement Documentation

Per [2 C.F.R. § 200.318\(i\)](#), local government and nonprofit recipients or subrecipients are required to maintain and retain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records must include, but are not limited to, the rationale for the procurement method, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price. States and Indian Tribes are reminded that in order for any cost to be allowable, it must be adequately documented per [2 C.F.R. §200.403\(g\)](#).

Examples of the types of documents that would cover this information include but are not limited to:

- Solicitation documentation, such as requests for quotes, invitations for bids, or requests for proposals;
- Responses to solicitations, such as quotes, bids, or proposals;
- Pre-solicitation independent cost estimates and post-solicitation cost/price analyses on file for review by federal personnel, if applicable;
- Contract documents and amendments, including required contract provisions; and
- Other documents required by federal regulations applicable at the time a grant is awarded to a recipient.

D. Buy America Preference Requirements for Infrastructure

None of the funds provided under this program may be used for a project for infrastructure unless the iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in that infrastructure project are produced in the United States.

Recipients and subrecipients provided funds under this program for an infrastructure project must comply with FEMA's implementation requirements of the Build America, Buy America Act, as detailed in [FEMA's Buy America Preference Policy](#). See also [2 C.F.R. Part 184, Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Projects](#), and [Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\), Memorandum M-24-02, Implementation Guidance on Application of Buy America Preference in Federal Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure](#).

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and

furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

For more information about FEMA's implementation of the Buy America Preference, please visit FEMA's Buy America Preference webpage at [Programs and Definitions: Build America, Buy America Act | FEMA.gov](#).

Waivers

When necessary, recipients (and subrecipients through their pass-through entity) may apply for a waiver from these requirements.

A waiver of the domestic content procurement preference may be granted if FEMA determines that:

- Applying the domestic content procurement preference would be inconsistent with the public interest, or
- The types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality, or
- The inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25%.

The process for requesting a waiver from the Buy America preference requirements can be found on FEMA's website at ["Buy America" Preference in FEMA Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure | FEMA.gov](#).

Definitions

For definitions of the key terms of the Build America, Buy America Act, please visit [Programs and Definitions: Build America, Buy America Act | FEMA.gov](#).

E. Mandatory Disclosures

The non-federal entity or applicant for a federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the federal award, [2 C.F.R. § 200.113](#).

F. Adaptive Support

Pursuant to [Section 504, of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#), recipients of FEMA financial assistance must ensure that their programs and activities do not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities.

G. Record Retention

Record Retention Period

Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other non-federal entity records pertinent to a federal award generally must be maintained for at least three years from the date the final FFR is submitted per [2 C.F.R. §200.334](#). Further, if the recipient does not submit a final FFR and the award

is administratively closed, FEMA uses the date of administrative closeout as the start of the general record retention period.

The record retention period may be longer than three years or have a different start date in certain cases.

Types of Records to Retain

FEMA requires that recipients and subrecipients maintain the following documentation for federally funded purchases:

- Specifications
- Solicitations
- Competitive quotes or proposals
- Basis for selection decisions
- Purchase orders
- Contracts
- Invoices
- Canceled checks

H. Actions to Address Noncompliance

Non-federal entities receiving financial assistance funding from FEMA are required to comply with requirements in the terms and conditions of their awards or subawards, including the terms set forth in applicable federal statutes, regulations, NOFOs, and policies. Throughout the award lifecycle or even after an award has been closed, FEMA or the pass-through entity may discover potential or actual noncompliance on the part of a recipient or subrecipient.

In the case of any potential or actual noncompliance, FEMA may place special conditions on an award per [2 C.F.R. § 200.208](#) and [2 C.F.R. § 200.339](#). FEMA may place a hold on funds until the matter is corrected, or additional information is provided per [2 C.F.R. § 200.339](#), or it may do both. Similar remedies for noncompliance with certain federal civil rights laws are authorized pursuant to [44 C.F.R. Part 7](#) and [44 C.F.R. Part 19](#) or other applicable regulations.

If the noncompliance is not able to be corrected by imposing additional conditions or the recipient or subrecipient refuses to correct the matter, FEMA may take other remedies allowed under [2 C.F.R. § 200.339](#).

I. Audits

FEMA grant recipients are subject to audit oversight from multiple entities including the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG), the GAO, the pass-through entity, or independent auditing firms for single audits, and may cover activities and costs incurred under the award. Auditing agencies such as the DHS OIG, the GAO, and the pass-through entity (if applicable), and FEMA in its oversight capacity, must have access to records pertaining to the FEMA award.



Contacts and Appendices

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Contacts

A. Program Office

For additional information about the IBSGP not found in the NOFO, this manual, or other program specific guidance, the program office can be reached at fema-tisb-rail-and-transit@fema.dhs.gov.

B. FEMA Grants News

FEMA Grants News provides general information on all FEMA grant programs and maintains a comprehensive database containing key personnel contact information at the federal, state, and local levels. FEMA Grants News is reachable at fema-grants-news@fema.dhs.gov or (800) 368-6498, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET.

C. Award Administration Division

GPD's Award Administration Division (AAD) provides support regarding financial matters and budgetary technical assistance. AAD can be contacted at ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov.

D. Procurement Under Grants Division

The Procurement Disaster Assistance Team (PDAT) and Buy America Branch (BAB) within GPD's Procurement Under Grants Division offer technical support to ensure compliance with federal procurement and domestic preference standards for FEMA awards. You can reach PDAT at fema-gpd-pdat@fema.dhs.gov and BAB at fema-grants-buyamerica@fema.dhs.gov. When reaching out, please include your FEMA grant program point of contact for reference.

E. FEMA Regional Offices

FEMA Regional Offices also may provide fiscal support, including pre- and post-award administration and technical assistance. FEMA Regional Office contact information is available at [Regions, States and Territories](#).

F. Civil Rights

Consistent with Executive Order 14173, Ending Illegal Discrimination & Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity, the FEMA Integration and Coordination Division (ICD) is responsible for ensuring compliance with and enforcement of federal civil rights obligations in connection with programs and services conducted by FEMA. They are reachable at fema-ocr@fema.dhs.gov.

G. Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation

The FEMA Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (OEHP) provides guidance and information about the EHP review process to FEMA programs and recipients and subrecipients. Send any inquiries regarding compliance for FEMA grant projects under this NOFO to FEMA-OEHP-NOFOQuestions@fema.dhs.gov.

H. Payment and Reporting

FEMA uses FEMA GO for financial reporting, invoicing, and tracking payments. The Direct

Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT) method of payment is used for recipients. For any questions about the system, the FEMA GO Helpdesk can be reached at femago@fema.dhs.gov or (877) 585-3242, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET.

I. FEMA GO

For technical assistance with the FEMA GO system, the FEMA GO Helpdesk can be reached at femago@fema.dhs.gov or (877) 585-3242, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET.

J. FEMA Preparedness Toolkit

The FEMA Preparedness Toolkit (PrepToolkit) provides access to tools and resources needed to implement the National Preparedness System and provide a collaborative space for communities completing the Unified Reporting Tool (URT). Recipients complete and submit their Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR), and other required assessments using the PrepToolkit. For assistance, contact support@preptoolkit.fema.dhs.gov.

K. Preparedness Grants Manual

Recipients seeking guidance on policies and procedures for managing preparedness grants should reference the Preparedness Grants Manual.

Appendices

Appendix I

A. Planning

Relevant program funds may be used for the following types of planning activities:

1. Developing and enhancing system-wide security risk management plans that ensure the continuity of essential functions, to include cybersecurity;
2. Developing or further strengthening continuity plans, response plans, station action plans, risk assessments, and asset-specific remediation plans;
3. Developing or further strengthening of security assessments, including multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional partnerships and conferences to facilitate planning activities;
4. Hiring full or part-time staff and contractors or consultants to assist with planning activities only to the extent that such expenses are for the allowable activities within the scope of the grant (not for the purpose of hiring public safety personnel); hiring of contractors/consultants must follow the applicable federal procurement requirements at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327; Materials required to conduct planning activities;
5. Conducting risk and resilience assessments on increasingly connected cyber and physical systems, on which security depends, using the [Infrastructure Resilience Planning Framework](#) and related Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) resources;
6. Planning activities related to alert and warning capabilities; and
7. Other project planning activities with prior approval from FEMA.

B. Operational Activities

FEMA encourages applicants to develop innovative operational approaches to enhance the security of transit systems. Projects that use visible, unpredictable deterrence, to include OPacks dealing with explosive detection canine teams, mobile screening teams, and anti-terrorism teams, directly support enhancing the protection of soft targets and crowded places. Implementation of one of the three OPack models discussed below complements existing security systems and provides an appropriate, practical, and cost-effective means of protecting assets.

Agencies may submit IJ to fund transit security police forces/law enforcement providers for patrols and activities on overtime, such as directed patrols, additional canine teams, mobile screening teams, or anti-terrorism team patrols. These activities must be dedicated to the transit environment and must be anti-terrorism in nature. Agencies must identify the type of activity, length of operation (hours), number of personnel, and cost based on length of operation and personnel. Agencies should also provide a risk-based justification for the request, to include linkage to a known event, such as hosting a significant regional sporting or political event; or a period of heightened awareness, such as a national holiday.

Three OPack types have been developed to support operational activities and are available for funding under the IPR Program.

1. **Explosives Detection Canine Teams (EDCTs).** When combined with the existing capability of a

transit security/police force, the added value provided through the addition of an EDCT is significant. EDCTs are a proven, reliable resource to detect explosives and are a key component in a balanced counter-sabotage program. The IPR Program will provide funds to establish dedicated security/police force canine teams. Each canine team will be composed of one dog and one handler.

2. **Anti-Terrorism Teams (ATTs).** The ATT capability provided through the IPR Program funding is for uniformed, dedicated transit patrols on a normal operational basis, rather than using teams only for a surge capacity as provided by FEMA in the past. ATTs do not supersede other local transit security forces; rather, they augment current capabilities. Each ATT will consist of four individuals, including two overt elements (e.g., uniformed transit sector law enforcement officer, canine team, mobile explosive screeners), and two discreet observer elements.
3. **Mobile Explosive Screening Teams (MESTs).** The MEST OPack will allow recipients the flexibility to deploy combinations of certified explosive ordinance technicians with mobile explosive screening technologies, including during local National Special Security Events. This screening technology will be coupled with mobile explosive screening technologies. Each MEST should have a minimum of two members and one mobile explosive screening apparatus.

Note: Funds for canine teams may not be used to fund drug detection and apprehension technique training. Only explosives detection training for the canine teams will be funded.

Five-Year Security Capital Plan and Operational Sustainment Applicant requests for OPack funding must include the submission of a Five-Year Security Capital and Operational Sustainment Plan in FEMA GO. This plan must include how the agency proposes to implement capital projects and demonstrate how the agency will sustain the operational investments (including officers hired with federal funding) and capabilities after grant funding has been expended. Requests for OPacks will not be funded if the applicant does not have a Security Capital and Operational Sustainment Plan.

C. Funding Availability for OPacks

OPacks have the potential to be funded for up to 36 months from the award date. The monetary figures presented below are stated in terms of cost per period of performance (which indicates actual/complete funding for a 36-month period). Additionally, any OPack costs after the period of performance (including expenses related to the maintenance, personnel, equipment, etc.) are the responsibility of the applicable transit system. Additional funding may be applied for in future grant cycles to maintain this operational capability, but future funding is not guaranteed and requires approval. If these positions are not sustained, the public transportation agency may not be eligible for this personnel support in the future. The table below identifies the maximum funding available for the different OPack types.

Available Funding for OPacks

Operational Package	Maximum Funding per Year (12 months)	Maximum Funding per Period of Performance (36 months)
EDCT	\$150,000 per team	\$450,000 per team
ATT	\$500,000 per team	\$1.5 million per team

MEST	\$600,000 per team	\$1.8 million per team
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OPack Requirements

IPR OPack funds may be used for new positions or to sustain existing capabilities/programs (e.g., canine teams) already supported by the recipient. Applicants submitting IJs for both new OPacks and sustainment funding for existing OPacks must indicate in their IJ's which funding the higher priority for their agency is. Additionally, applicants must provide the number of existing teams (EDCT, ATT, and MEST) already in place, regardless of how they are funded (e.g., in-house funding or IPR grant funding). The table below identifies specific OPack requirements.

OPack Requirements

Operational Package	Requirements
Explosives Detection Canine Teams (EDCTs)	Please refer to the Preparedness Grants Manual for detailed information regarding EDCTs for the IPR Program.
Anti-Terrorism Teams (ATT)	Specific for the Canine Team within the ATT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each canine team, composed of one dog and one handler, must be certified by an appropriate, qualified organization; Canines should receive an initial basic training course and also weekly maintenance training sessions thereafter to maintain the certification; • The basic team training averages 10 weeks, with weekly training and daily exercising; (comparable training and certification standards, such as those promulgated by the TSA Explosives Detection Canine Program, the National Police Canine Association (NPCA), the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA), or the International Explosive Detection Dog Association (IEDDA) may be used to meet this requirement); • The individuals hired for the covert and overt elements must be properly trained law enforcement officers; and • Certifications should be on file with the recipient and must be made available to FEMA upon request.
Mobile Explosives Screening Team (MEST)	Certifications should be on file with the recipient and must be made available to FEMA upon request.

Allowable Expenses for OPacks

The table below identifies allowable expenses for the various OPacks. Please see the inserted notes for

clarification of certain allowable costs.

Allowable Expenses for OPacks

Operational Package	Salary and Fringe Benefits	Training and Certification	Equipment Costs	Purchase and Train a Canine	Canine Costs ^b
1) EDCT ^a	✓	✓	✓	✓ ^c	✓
2) ATT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3) MEST	✓		✓ ^d		

- Travel costs associated with training for personnel, handlers, and canines are allowable
- Canine costs include but are not limited to veterinary, housing, and feeding costs
- One type of allowable training is training specific to the detection of common explosives odors
- Equipment and other costs can include but are not limited to explosives detection; stainless steel search tables; consumables such as gloves, swabs, and alcohol; and land mobile radios

D. Equipment and Capital Projects

Priority projects include TTAL risk remediation and protection of other high-risk, high-consequence areas or systems that have been identified through system-wide risk assessments. These costs include:

- Projects related to physical security enhancements at rail stations, including security cameras, security screening equipment for people and baggage, and access control (e.g., fences, gates, barriers, etc.); and
- Projects related to cybersecurity of access control, sensors, security cameras, badge/ID readers, Industrial Control Systems (ICS)/Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, process monitors and controls, etc. or passenger/vehicle/cargo security screening equipment support. Cybersecurity assessments are allowable.

Equipment Acquisition

Program funds may be used for the following categories of equipment. A comprehensive listing of allowable equipment categories and types is found in the [Authorized Equipment List \(AEL\)](#). These costs include:

- Personal protective equipment;
- Explosive device mitigation and remediation equipment;
- Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) operational search and rescue equipment, logistical support equipment, reference materials, or incident response vehicles;
- Interoperable communications equipment, including alert and warning capabilities;
- Components or systems needed to address flaws in the computerized systems that control generators, switching stations, and electrical substations as well as other threats to infrastructure critical to the U.S. economy;

6. Detection equipment;
7. Power equipment;
8. Terrorism incident prevention equipment; and
9. Physical security enhancement equipment.

Recipients and subrecipients may purchase equipment not listed on the AEL, but **only** if they first seek and obtain **prior approval** from FEMA.

Additional information on controlled equipment is pending publication. Please visit FEMA's website for current and upcoming guidance.

Unless otherwise noted, equipment must be certified as meeting required regulatory and FEMA-adopted standards to be eligible for purchase using program funds. Equipment must comply with the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* requirement for certification of electrical equipment by a nationally recognized testing laboratory and demonstrate compliance with relevant FEMA-adopted standards through a supplier's declaration of conformity with appropriate supporting data and documentation per International Organization for Standardization/International Electro-technical Commission (ISO/IEC) 17050, Parts One and Two. Agencies must have all necessary certifications and licenses for the requested equipment, as appropriate, prior to its purchase.

DHS adopted standards are found at [DHS Implementation Statement Regarding Standard Terms and Conditions for Research Grants | Homeland Security](#).

In addition, recipients that are using IPR funds to support emergency communications equipment activities must comply with the [SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants](#), including provisions on technical standards that ensure and enhance interoperable communications. For more information about SAFECOM, see the Preparedness Grants Manual.

Requirements for Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS)

For information on sUAS allowability, please see the [Preparedness Grants Manual](#).

Cybersecurity Projects

Program funds may be used for projects that enhance the cybersecurity of: Access controls, sensors, security cameras, badge/ID readers, ICS/SCADA systems, process monitors and controls (such as firewalls, network segmentation, predictive security cloud, etc.); and passenger/vehicle/cargo security screening equipment (cybersecurity assessments are allowable).

When requesting funds for cybersecurity, applicants are encouraged to propose projects that would aid in implementation of all or part of the [Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, Version 1.1](#) (the "Framework") developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The Framework gathers existing international standards and practices to help organizations understand, communicate, and manage their cyber risks. For organizations that do not know where to start with developing a cybersecurity program, the Framework provides initial guidance. For organizations with more advanced practices, the Framework offers a way to improve their programs, such as better communication with their leadership and suppliers about management of cyber risks.

DHS's Enhanced Cybersecurity Services (ECS) program is an example of a resource that assists in

protecting U.S.-based public and private entities and combines key elements of capabilities under the "Detect" and "Protect" functions to deliver an impactful solution relative to the outcomes of the Cybersecurity Framework.

Specifically, ECS offers intrusion prevention and analysis services that help U.S.-based companies and SLTT governments defend their computer systems against unauthorized access, exploitation, and data exfiltration. ECS works by sourcing timely, actionable cyber threat indicators from sensitive and classified Government Furnished Information (GFI). DHS then shares those indicators with accredited Commercial Service Providers (CSPs). Those CSPs in turn use the indicators to block certain types of malicious traffic from entering a company's networks. Groups interested in subscribing to ECS must contract directly with a CSP to receive services. Please visit <http://www.cisa.gov/enhanced-cybersecurity-services-ecs> for a current list of ECS CSP points of contact.

Capital (Construction) Projects Guidance

See the Preparedness Grants Manual for more information about IPR Program Capital (Construction) Projects Guidance.

E. Training and Awareness Campaigns

Training

Program funds may be used for the following training activities:

1. **Training Topics.** Priority topics include active shooter training, security training for employees, and public awareness/preparedness campaigns.
2. **Training Workshops.** Grant funds may be used to plan and conduct training workshops to include costs related to planning, meeting space and other meeting costs, facilitation costs, materials and supplies, travel, and training plan development. Recipients are strongly encouraged to use free public space/locations/facilities, whenever available, prior to the rental of space/locations/facilities. Training should provide the opportunity to demonstrate and validate skills learned, as well as to identify any gaps in these skills. Any training or training gaps, including those for children and individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, should be identified in an After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) and addressed in the training cycle.
3. **Hiring of Full or Part-Time Staff or Contractors/Consultants.** Full or part-time staff or contractors/consultants may be hired to support training-related activities. Hiring of contractors/consultants must follow the applicable federal procurement requirements at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327. Reimbursement of these costs should conform with the policies of the state or local unit(s) of government or the awarding agency, whichever is applicable. Such costs must be included within the funding allowed for program management personnel expenses, which must not exceed 10% of the total allocation. Dual compensation is unallowable. That is, an employee of a unit of government may not receive compensation from their unit or agency of government and from an award for a single period of time (e.g., 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.), even though such work may benefit both activities. Personnel hiring, overtime, and backfill expenses are permitted under this grant only to the extent that such expenses are for the allowable activities within the scope of the grant.
4. **Overtime and Backfill Costs.** The entire overtime costs, including payments related to backfilling personnel, are the direct result of attendance at FEMA and approved training courses

and programs are allowable. Reimbursement of these costs should follow the policies of the state or local unit(s) of government or the awarding agency, whichever is applicable. In no case is dual compensation allowable.

5. **Travel.** Domestic travel costs (e.g., airfare, mileage, per diem, and hotel) are allowable as expenses by employees who are on travel status for official business related, approved training, subject to the restrictions at 2 C.F.R. Part 200. International travel is not an allowable expense.
6. **Supplies.** Supplies, items that are expended or consumed during the course of the planning and conduct of the training projects (s) (e.g., gloves and non-sterile masks), are allowable expenses.
7. **Funds Used to Develop, Deliver, and Evaluate Training,** including costs related to administering the training, planning, scheduling, facilities, materials and supplies, reproduction of materials, and equipment are allowable expenses. Training should provide the opportunity to demonstrate and validate skills learned, as well as to identify any gaps in these skills. Any training or training gaps, including those for children and individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, should be identified in the AAR/IP and addressed in the training cycle.

For IPR, recipients are encouraged to use existing training rather than developing new courses. When developing new courses, recipients are encouraged to apply the Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation, and Evaluation (ADDIE) model of instruction design. Information on FEMA-approved training can found at <https://www.firstrespondertraining.gov/frts/>.

Awareness Campaigns

Program funds may be used for the development and implementation of awareness campaigns to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and for associated efforts to increase the sharing of information with public and private sector partners, including nonprofit organizations. DHS currently sponsors or supports a number of awareness campaigns. Please review materials, strategies, and resources at <https://www.dhs.gov/archive/dhs-campaigns> before embarking on the development of an awareness campaign for local constituencies and stakeholders.

Note: DHS requires that all public and private sector partners wanting to implement and/or expand the DHS "If You See Something, Say Something®" campaign ("campaign") using grant funds work directly with the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement (OPE). This will help ensure that the awareness materials (e.g., videos, posters, trifolds, etc.) remain consistent with DHS's messaging and strategy for the campaign and compliant with the initiative's trademark, which is licensed to DHS by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Coordination with OPE, through the campaign's office (seesay@hq.dhs.gov), must be facilitated by the FEMA HQ Preparedness Officer.

F. Exercises

Program funds may be used for the following exercise activities:

1. **Funds Used to Design, Develop, Conduct and Evaluate an Exercise.** This includes costs related to planning, meeting space, and other meeting costs, facilitation costs, materials and supplies, travel, and documentation. Through exercises, organizations can validate plans and procedures, evaluate capabilities, and assess progress toward meeting capability targets in a controlled, low risk setting. Any shortcoming or gap identified, including those for children and individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, should be identified in an effective corrective

action program that includes developing improvement plans that are dynamic documents, with corrective actions continually monitored and implemented as part of improving preparedness through the exercise cycle.

2. **Hiring of Full or Part-Time Staff or Contractors/Consultants.** Full or part-time staff may be hired to support exercise-related activities. To be eligible for reimbursement, the costs for hiring staff must conform to the policies of the non-federal entity and federal statutes, where applicable. See, e.g., [2 C.F.R. § 200.430\(a\)](#). The costs for hiring contractors or consultants must comply with the applicable federal procurement standards at 2 C.F.R. §§200.317 - 200.327. The costs for hiring staff, consultants, or contractors to support exercise-related activities costs must be included within the funding allowed for program management personnel expenses, which must not exceed 10% of the total allocation. Dual compensation is never allowable. In other words, that an employee of a unit of government may not receive compensation from their unit or agency of government and from an award for a single period of time (e.g., 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.), even though their work may benefit both entities. Personnel hiring, overtime, and backfill expenses are permitted under this grant only to the extent that such expenses are for the allowable activities within the scope of the grant.
3. **Overtime and Backfill Costs.** The entire amount of overtime costs, including payments related to backfilling personnel, which are the direct result of time spent on the design, development and conduct of exercises are allowable expenses. These costs are allowed only to the extent the payment for such services is in accordance with the policies of the state or unit(s) of local government and has the approval of the state or the awarding agency, whichever is applicable. Dual compensation is never allowable.
4. **Travel.** Domestic travel costs are allowable as expenses by employees who are on travel status for official business related to the planning and conduct of exercise projects, subject to the restrictions at 2 C.F.R. Part 200. International travel is not an allowable expense.
5. **Supplies.** Supplies are items that are expended or consumed during the course of the planning and conduct of the exercise projects (e.g., gloves, non-sterile masks, and disposable protective equipment).
6. **Other Items.** These costs include renting space/locations for exercise planning and executing, rental of equipment, etc. Recipients are encouraged to use free public space/locations/facilities, whenever available, before renting space/locations/facilities. These also include costs that may be associated with inclusive practices and the provision of reasonable accommodation and modifications to provide full access for children and adults with disabilities.

G. Construction and Renovation

Construction and renovation costs to achieve capability targets related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, or responding to acts of terrorism are allowed under this program. For construction costs to be allowed, they must be specifically approved by DHS/FEMA in writing prior to the use of any program funds for construction or renovation. All proposed construction and renovation activities must undergo an EHP review, including approval of the review from FEMA, prior to undertaking any action related to the project. Failure of a grant recipient to meet these requirements may jeopardize Federal funding. See the [Preparedness Grants Manual](#) for additional information. Additionally, recipients are required to submit an SF-424C Form and budget detail citing the project costs.

H. Backfill, Overtime, and Hiring

Backfill, overtime, and hiring costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

I. Travel

Domestic travel costs are allowed under this program as described in this NOFO. International travel is not an allowable cost under this program unless approved in advance by DHS/FEMA.

J. Maintenance and Sustainment

Maintenance and sustainment related costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO and the Preparedness Grants Manual.

K. Excess Funds

After completing the initial project proposed in the recipient's application, AMTRAK may have unexpended funds remaining in their budgets. These excess funds may result from any combination of under-budget acquisition activities or competitive procurement processes. In such cases, excess funds must be returned to FEMA upon project completion.